CLAIMS

- 1. A method of filtering messages, comprising:

 receiving a text-based filter string representing filter criteria;

 converting the text-based filter string directly to machine-language filter

 code once for use by a code section of a computer program; and

 using the code section, executing the machine-language filter code to

 accept or discard multiple messages received by or residing within one or more

 software components within the computer program based on the filter criteria.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein executing the machine-language filter code is performed by a central processing unit running the computer program.
- 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the computer program is a JavaTM virtual machine.
 - 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the machine-language filter code is directly executable by the central processing unit.
- The method of claim 4, wherein the machine-language filter code is a JavaTM class.
 - 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the text-based filter string is human-readable.
 - 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the text-based filter string is formatted according to a conditional expression syntax.
 - 8. A system of filtering information transmitted from one or more software components within a computer program to one or more other software

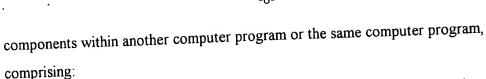
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a filter generator configured to receive a text-based filter string representing filter criteria;

a machine language generator coupled with the filter generator and being configured to convert the text-based filter string directly to machine-language filter code; and

a processor for executing the machine-language filter code for a software component of a computer program to accept or discard information received by the software component within the computer program based on the filter criteria.

- 9. The system of claim 8, wherein the processor is included with a central processing unit.
- 10. The system of claim 8, wherein the computer program is a JavaTM virtual machine.
- The system of claim 8, wherein the machine-language filter code is directly executable by the central processing unit.
- The system of claim 11, wherein the machine-language filter code is a Java $^{\text{TM}}$ class.
- The system of claim 8, wherein the filter string is human readable.
 - 14. The system of claim 13, wherein the filter string is formatted according to a conditional expression syntax.